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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--12 OCTOBER 1962

1. FRANCE-BERLIN

A. DE GAULLE STILL HOLDS THE VIEW THAT THE ALLIES SHOULD BRING HOME TO MOSCOW THAT ARMED INTERFERENCE WITH THEIR ACCESS TO BERLIN WOULD MEAN NUCLEAR WAR. MOREOVER, HE WANTS CONTINGENCY PLANS ON BERLIN TO BE SO CONSTRUCTED.

B. IN THIS VEIN, THE FRENCH FOREIGN OFFICE HAS TOLD THE BRITISH THAT LORD HOME TOOK THE WRONG TACK IN SAYING BEFORE THE UN THAT THE WEST WOULD TRY TO "ISOLATE AND STOP" ACCIDENTAL HOSTILITIES IN BERLIN.

2. SOVIET-CHINESE RELATIONS

A. THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS HAVE TOLD MOSCOW IN STRONG LANGUAGE THAT PEIPING WILL SPEAK FOR ITSELF WHEN IT COMES TO RENOUNCING THE RIGHT TO NUCLEAR ARMS.

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C.

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PEIPING HAS BEEN SAYING PUBLICLY:

THAT THE PURPOSE OF OUR ARMS LIMITATION PROPOSALS IS TO CHEAT THEM OUT OF NUCLEAR ARMS.

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3. YEMEN

A. BOTH THE REPUBLICANS AND THE LOYALISTS ARE CLAIMING PUBLICLY THAT THE FIGHTING BETWEEN THEIR FORCES WAS HEAVY YESTERDAY. [REDACTED]

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B. [REDACTED] THE BASIC SITUATION REMAINS
THUS: SUPPORTERS OF THE IMAMATE ARE DOMINANT IN THE NORTH
AND NORTHEAST; AND THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND IS IN CONTROL
OF THE MAJOR POPULATION CENTERS.

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C. THE REPUBLICANS ASKED OUR CHARGE IN TAIZ YESTERDAY
WHETHER THE US WOULD BE WILLING TO SUPPLY 20,000 TONS OF
WHEAT, A REQUEST WHICH THE CHARGE INTERPRETS AS "COMPELLING
CONFIRMATION OF THE REGIME'S DESIRE FOR FRIENDSHIP AND
COOPERATION WITH THE US."

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4. CONGO

A. TSHOMBE YESTERDAY DECLARED PUBLICLY THAT HE WOULD MAKE GOOD ON HIS PROMISES TO UNDERSECRETARY MCGHEE, E.G., TO MAKE A PAYMENT EQUIVALENT TO \$2 MILLION INTO THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S TREASURY; REOPEN THE BRIDGE LINKING KATANGA TO KASAI PROVINCE; THEREAFTER DISPATCH A COPPER SHIPMENT BY THAT ROUTE TO A TRANSSHIPMENT POINT ON CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TERRITORY.

B. THERE ARE SIGNS ALSO THAT TSHOMBE IS WAVERING ON HIS DEMAND THAT UN FORCES BE INCLUDED IN ANY CEASE-FIRE, A POINT WHICH WESTERN AND UN REPRESENTATIVES ALIKE REGARD AS THE ACID TEST OF HIS GOOD INTENTIONS.

C. ALTHOUGH MCGHEE AND THE WESTERN CONSULS IN ELISABETHVILLE SEE GROUNDS FOR OPTIMISM IN THE TSHOMBE ATTITUDE, THE UN'S CONGO CHIEF, GARDINER, WHO WAS IN ELISABETHVILLE YESTERDAY, IS GLOOMY.

D. AS GARDINER SEES IT, ALL TSHOMBE HAS GIVEN SO FAR IS A SERIES OF CHEAP, DEMONSTRATIVE GESTURES. HE SAYS THAT HIS STATUS REPORT TO U THANT WILL HAVE TO RECORD THAT KATANGAN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECONCILIATION PLAN IS NEAR ZERO.

5. VENEZUELA

A. PRESIDENT BETANCOURT MAY HAVE HIT UPON A DEVICE TO GET AT THE COMMUNISTS AND CRYPTO-COMMUNISTS WHO HAVE BEEN PROMOTING VIOLENCE FROM THEIR PARLIAMENTARY HAVEN.

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B. HIS SCHEME IS TO CALL ON THE SUPREME COURT TO NULLIFY THEIR ELECTION AND THEREBY ABOLISH THE IMMUNITY OF THESE CONGRESSMEN. THE GROUNDS FOR THIS ACTION WOULD BE THAT THEY "FALSELY REPRESENTED THEMSELVES AS SUPPORTING CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT."

C. THERE IS A GOOD CHANCE THAT HIS COALITION PARTNER, THE SOCIAL CHRISTIAN PARTY, WILL PART WITH BETANCOURT OVER THE TAINTED LEGALITY OF THE MANEUVER, BUT WITH THE MILITARY STILL BREATHING HARD DOWN HIS NECK HE IS LIKELY TO GO AHEAD ANYWAY.

6. USSR

A. WE ARE SEEING SIGNS

IN VARIOUS

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PARTS OF THE USSR THAT MOSCOW IS LEADING UP TO A FAIRLY EXTENSIVE REORGANIZATION OF ITS ECONOMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE APPARATUS.

IT APPEARS THAT THE PARTY'S SUBSIDIARY FOR YOUTH, THE KOMSOMOL, AND SUCH PSEUDO-SEPARATE HELPMATES AS THE TRADE UNIONS AND THE PRESS WILL BE TOUCHED BY THE CHANGES.

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THE MEETING OF THE PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE, WHICH WE EXPECT SOMETIME NEXT MONTH, WILL SET THE SEAL ON THE REALIGNMENT.

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7. WEST GERMANY

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A. BONN IS DICKERING WITH THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT TO SET UP A WEST GERMAN TRADE MISSION IN BUDAPEST.

B. THIS WOULD NOT BE A MOMENTOUS MOVE BY ITSELF, BUT IT SHOWS THAT THE BONN GOVERNMENT, AND FOREIGN MINISTER SCHROEDER IN PARTICULAR, ARE IN EARNEST ABOUT TRYING TO "NORMALIZE" RELATIONS WITH EASTERN EUROPE.

C. AS OF NOW, THE BONN-BUDAPEST DISCUSSIONS ARE IN A TUGGING-AND-PULLING STAGE, WITH THE HUNGARIANS TRYING TO EXTRACT A PUBLIC STATEMENT FROM THE GERMANS THAT THEIR TRADE MISSION WOULD REPRESENT A FIRST STEP TOWARD DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION.

8. ALGERIA-CUBA

A. BEN BELLA, WHO WE REPORTED WAS BEING ENCOURAGED TO CANCEL HIS HAVANA VISIT, ANNOUNCED IN NEW YORK YESTERDAY THAT THE TRIP IS STILL ON.

B. HE SAID THAT ALGERIA WANTS TO COOPERATE WITH EVERYONE WHO WANTS TO COOPERATE. TO THIS HE ADDED: "MY VISIT TO WASHINGTON HAS A SPECIAL CHARACTER AND AT THE SAME TIME

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IT IS PRIVATE, BECAUSE WE CAN NEVER FORGET THAT PRESIDENT KENNEDY TOOK AN HONEST AND COURAGEOUS STAND TOWARD THE ALGERIAN QUESTION BEFORE BECOMING PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES."

9. NOTES

A. ARGENTINA: THE GUIDO GOVERNMENT APPEARS TO BE HEAD-ING STRAIGHT INTO MORE STORM CLOUDS BECAUSE OF A STEADY DECLINE IN THE VALUE OF THE PESO (FROM 127 TO THE DOLLAR ON 20 SEPTEMBER TO 140 ON 10 OCTOBER).

B. INDONESIA-MALAYSIA: INDONESIA IS TURNING A RESENT-FUL EYE TOWARD THE EMBRYONIC FEDERATION OF MALAYSIA. IF THE FEDERATION THRIVES AFTER ITS BIRTH NEXT YEAR, THE INDONESIANS WILL HAVE A RIVAL FOR PRIMACY IN THAT PART OF THE WORLD. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT DJAKARTA IS WORKING UP A PROGRAM OF SUBVERSION, WITH THE FOCUS ON SARAWAK, BRUNEI, AND NORTH BORNEO.

C. BRAZIL: PRESS DISPATCHES FROM RIO DE JANEIRO YES-TERDAY HAD QUADROS CONCEDED DEFEAT IN HIS RACE FOR THE GOVERNORSHIP OF SAO PAULO. WE ARE STILL AWAITING FINAL RETURNS ON THIS AND OTHER CONTESTS.

D. ECUADOR: ECUADOREAN COMMUNISTS HAVE AMBITIOUS PLANS FOR GUERRILLA OPERATIONS, TIMED TO BEGIN NEXT MONTH, WHICH WOULD HAVE THE GOAL OF SEVERING THE COASTAL AREA OF THE COUNTRY FROM THE HIGHLANDS. THEY SAY THEY HAVE SOME CUBAN ARMS ALREADY AND CAN COUNT ON A GOOD DEAL MORE IF THEY GET OFF TO A GOOD START.

[REDACTED]

E. EASTERN EUROPEAN HARVEST: IT LOOKS AS THOUGH THE EUROPEAN SATELLITES ARE IN FOR A HARD WINTER IN THE AFTER-MATH OF A GRAIN HARVEST WHICH WE FIGURE TO BE THE SMALLEST IN 5 YEARS. THE USSR'S WEAK AGRICULTURAL PERFORMANCE AND THEIR OWN SCANT FOREIGN EXCHANGE HOLDINGS MEANS THAT THE SATELLITES WILL BE HARD PUT TO GET OUTSIDE HELP.

F. JORDAN-LEBANON: BOTH JORDAN AND LEBANON ARE GETTING READY TO ASK THE US TO SUPPLY ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILES TO MATCH THOSE PROMISED ISRAEL. [REDACTED]

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